

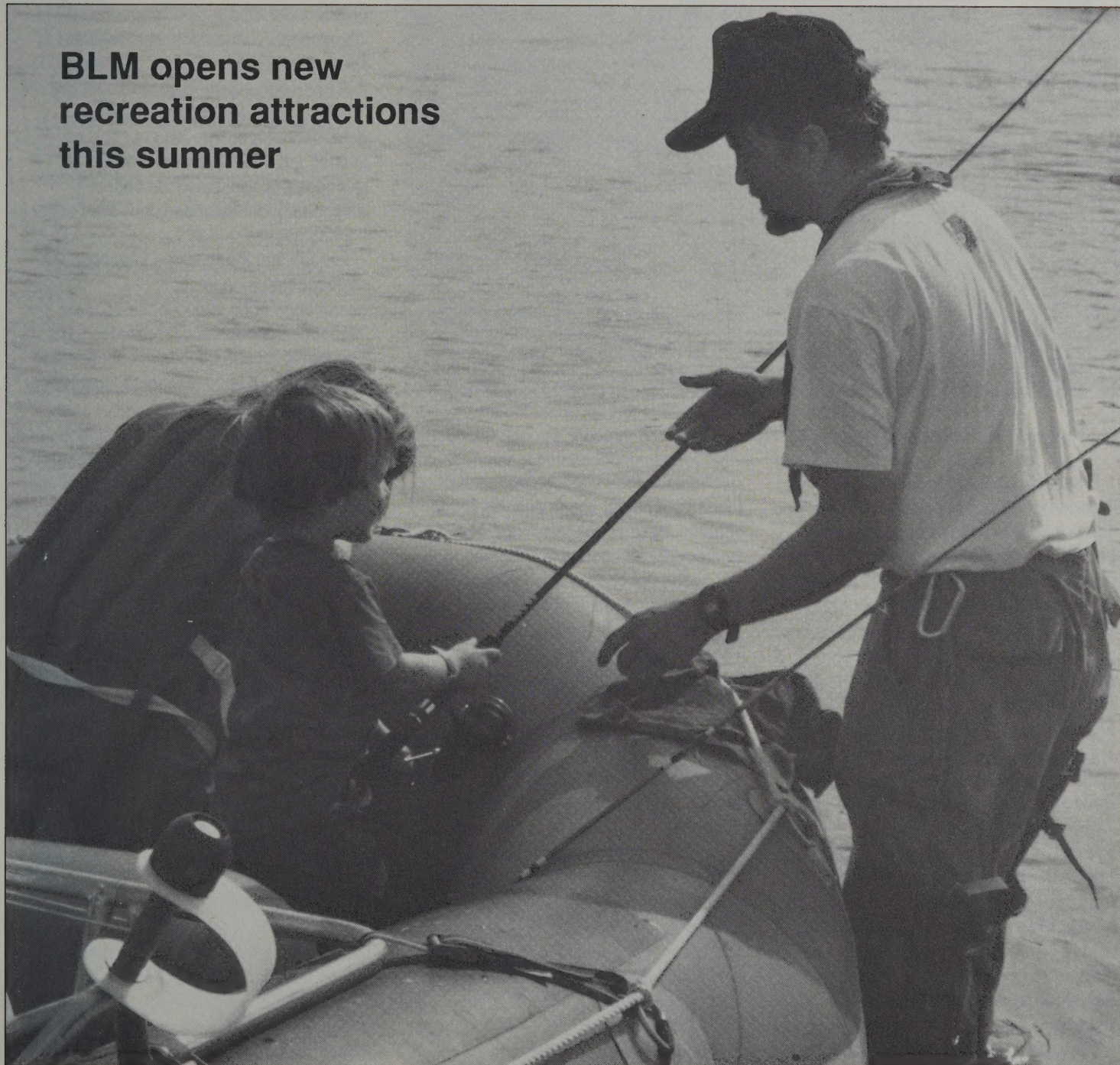
blm - alaska

frontiers

managing public lands for multiple use

Issue 37 July 1992

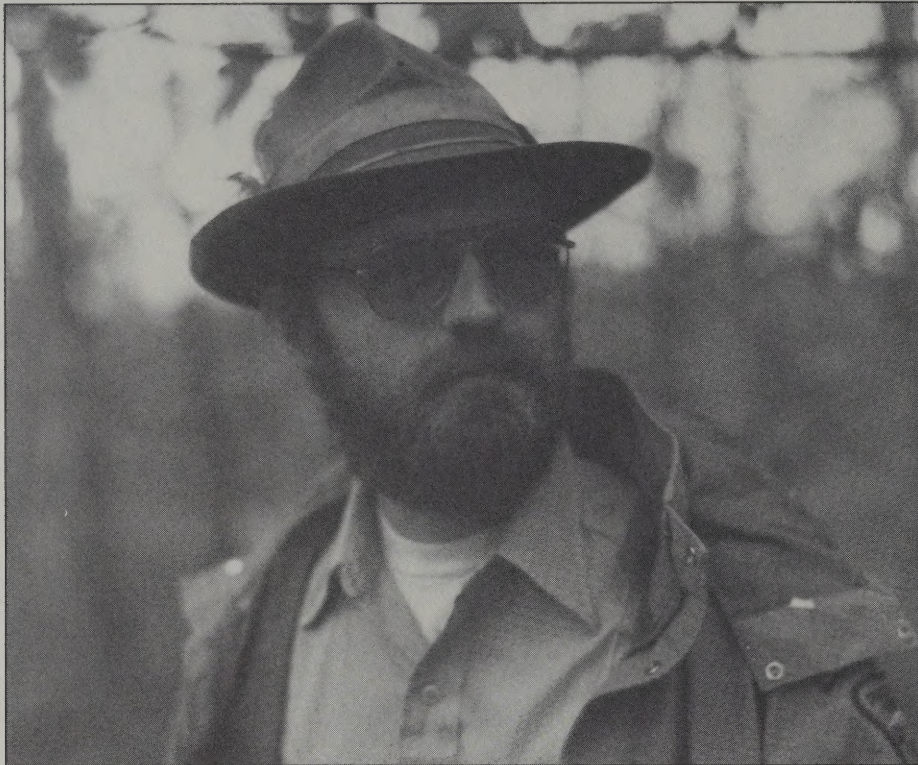
**BLM opens new
recreation attractions
this summer**



Start of lifelong interest? Family launches Gulkana River fishing trip from the new boat ramp at Sourdough Campground on the Richardson Highway.

u.s. department of the interior • bureau of land management

Kobuk circuit rider uses old idea in new ways



Realty specialist Boyce Bush takes high tech to remote villages in Kobuk District.

Most of the Native allotment field exams in the Kobuk District of BLM-Alaska had been finished. District personnel were no longer having as much contact with village residents.

District Manager Helen Hankins worried, "How can we get out to the villages to answer their questions and provide assistance?" From that question, the Circuit Rider program was born.

The concept for the program sprang up last fall during a brainstorming session among Hankins, Supervisory Realty Specialist Bob Barnes, and Realty Specialist Boyce Bush. "We were looking at ways to be more accessible," Bush said. "Since most of our Native allotment exams are completed now, we have had limited contact with village residents."

Now known as the Circuit Rider, Bush so far has spent one day each

in the Interior Alaskan villages of Nulato, Kaltag, Koyukuk, Galena, Huslia, Hughes, Alatna/Allakaket, Evansville, Ruby and Tanana.

"I sent flyers to villages ahead of time that announced the day of my visit and where I would be located. Most of the time I was given a space in a city office to work in," Bush said. Galena radio station KIYU also announced the Circuit Rider's visits.

The Circuit Rider's most notable accomplishment occurred in Galena. "I raised someone from the dead," Bush said. "A person came in to check on his Native allotment. Our records said he had died in 1984. After a startled moment's thought, the man recalled that in a nearby village a man with same name had died in 1984. So now we have him back on our files as among the living!"

During the circuit, he stayed overnight in schools, libraries, a Department of the Interior field

station, fire stations, city halls, a U.S. Air Force hotel, and bed and breakfasts.

Bush also weathered 50-below temperatures, and, in one case, the unsettling experience of having the airplane freeze up. "Another plane flew in to assist in getting ours started, but after an hour of trying, they took us out in the second airplane."

The Circuit Rider's trip was made possible by modern technology. Using a Federal Telephone System credit card and a notebook-sized computer with a telefax modem, Bush was able to dial up BLM's AALMRS system—the Automated Alaska Lands and Minerals Resources System—to check land status, get case file information or get other lands data needed to answer questions from village residents.

In Galena, Bush demonstrated the capabilities of AALMRS to personnel with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Gana -A' Yoo, Ltd., Native Corporation.

Alatna/Allakaket had the highest turnout after his arrival was announced on the Citizen's Band radio system. "Eight people came to see me the first hour I was there," Bush said. "Except in Ruby and Tanana, most questions I answered concerned Native allotments. People in Ruby and Tanana had questions on status of a state law, RS 2477, that deals with right-of-way, and questions about how to obtain land use permits.

Bush took other work for slack times. "I entered easement information into a computer database," Bush said. "It is tedious work that would never have gotten done in an office full of interruptions."

The Circuit Rider program was "well worth the effort and expense," Barnes said. "We will try it again next winter and may expand to other villages. So far the people in the villages seem to appreciate our effort at public contact. We got some favorable feedback from folks who had not seen us for a long time."

—Sharon Durgan Wilson

BLM adds new recreation attractions along Alaska's highways

Travelers should notice the difference this year as BLM works to get recreation facilities ready for them to enjoy.

The most expensive project under way is the \$2 million reconstruction of Sourdough Campground, about 23 miles north of Glennallen on the Richardson Highway (9).

Sourdough Campground is closed while the work takes place, but alternative temporary camping will be available all summer just 1/2 mile north of the existing campground and boat ramp. The boat ramp will stay open through July 12, after which it too will be closed for reconstruction.

"We hope to have the new boat ramp, with expanded parking, available for use next summer," says BLM Glennallen District Manager Gene Keith.

Overcrowding at Sourdough's boat ramp has been increasing in recent years during the July king

salmon runs in the Gulkana River. To help solve this problem, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game has contributed \$262,000 for the development of the new boat ramp project.

Other projects that are underway include:

- Dalton Highway:** BLM will be opening a new visitor contact station at the Yukon River (1) and new orientation panels and a picnic area at the Arctic Circle (2).

In addition BLM, in cooperation with the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, will be developing a new campground at Marion Creek (3), a trailhead at Wickersham Dome (4) and five interpretive pullouts.

Additional recreation development along the Dalton Highway is scheduled for 1993. The Coldfoot inter-agency visitor center will again be open to the public from June 1st through September 30th.

- Denali Highway:** Five new exhibits with outdoor panels explaining points of interest along the highway, illustrated with maps



Location of the improvements BLM is adding this summer.

and pictures, will be developed as part of the Rendezvous '92 celebration commemorating the 50th anniversary of the construction of the Alaska Highway (5).

- Taylor Highway:** Two new outdoor exhibits will be built, one near the Canadian border and the other near Mt. Fairplay (6). Walker Fork Campground near Chicken will receive needed gravel surfacing.

- Tok:** A new display will be installed at the Alaska Public Lands Information Center. It will show the battle against the 1990 fire at Tok. It will also show what happens after wildfire burns an area, and gives tips on building in rural areas. This display is funded jointly by the BLM, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the State of Alaska (7).

- Nome and Kotzebue:** new displays funded jointly by the BLM, National Park Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, will be placed at the airport terminals (8).

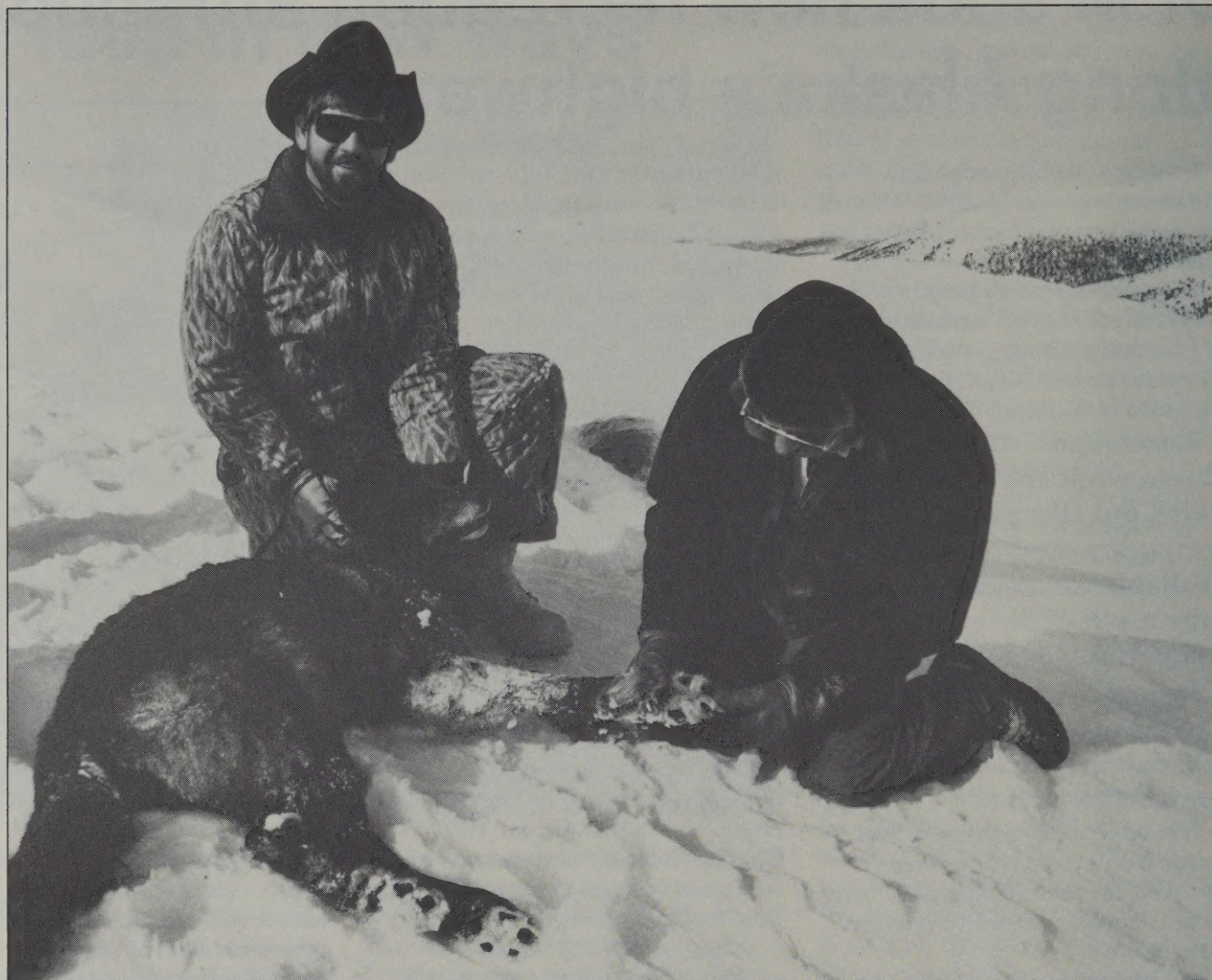
All these BLM projects are part of Recreation 2000, BLM's nationwide initiative to upgrade recreation facilities and attractions on the public lands for the 21st century.

—Ed Bovy



BLM is installing two new displays with maps and pictures of points of interest along the Taylor Highway.

—Great American Outdoors tapes



(Above) TV host Ron Shearer holds a wolf while BLM wildlife management specialist Winston Hobgood examines the animal. The TV crew filmed part of this work. BLM is working with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game on wildlife studies in the Steese National Conservation Area, near Fairbanks.

(Right) Moose and caribou were also collared for the studies while the Great American Outdoors crew gathered footage for national broadcast this winter.



TV shows in White Mountains

Nationwide television audiences will be treated to several armchair travelogs of BLM projects and recreation areas next winter.

A television production crew from The Great American Outdoors® program came to Alaska in late March to videotape several shows featuring the White Mountains National Recreation Area and the Steese National Conservation Area.

This outdoors-oriented program is watched each Saturday on The Nashville Network (TNN) by an audience of between six and eight million people.

Executives from the production company had first become interested in BLM-managed lands in Alaska after members of the Times-Mirror Conservation Council visited the state last summer and saw areas of the Seward Peninsula. After their visit, they discussed BLM with Ron Shearer, host of The Great American Outdoors, who decided he'd like to videotape some shows with BLM.

Winter recreation and resource management were the producers' two primary interests for videotaping. After discussions, they decided to visit the million-acre White Mountains National Recreation Area in the BLM Steese-White Mountains District to see the cabin and winter trail program and the complex and striking geological resources there.

They also wanted to see the Steese National Conservation Area, a million-acre area set aside by Congress to preserve wild and scenic qualities of Birch Creek, and

to protect crucial caribou calving grounds and Dall sheep habitat.

Arriving in Fairbanks, the three-person crew spent one day gathering video footage of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline, the city, and old mining operations before they traveled to the White Mountains.

There they set up a main camp at the Windy Gap cabin, which provides a stunning setting with dramatic limestone peaks and ridges. Working from this area, they spent three days getting footage on the winter trail system and interviewing Recreation Planner Eric Yeager, Ranger Randy Tracy, and Fisheries Biologist Brian Lubinski, all from BLM's Steese-White Mountains District office.

They also photographed BLM Director Cy Jamison speaking at the dedication of the final trail segment in the first phase of development for the area.

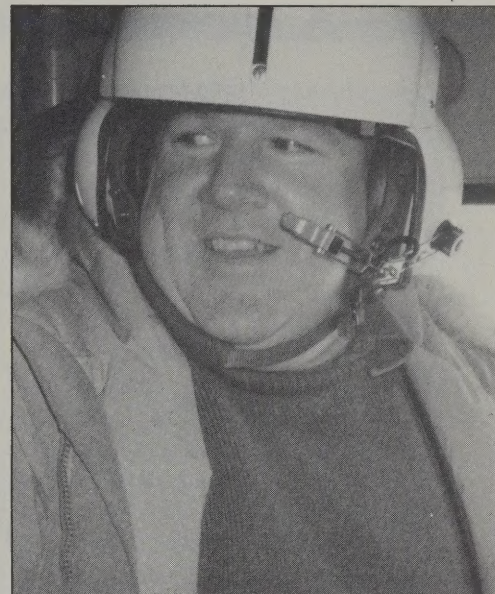
"Having this area available to the public is one important part of BLM's recreation program," Jamison said. "The trail and cabin system in the White Mountains are wonderful additions to the long list of opportunities for people to enjoy public lands."

Citing changes now underway in the agency, Jamison said, "This is a prime example of the new BLM that can meet the recreation needs of the public."

The crew also interviewed Special Assistant to the Director Mike Dombeck and Alaska State director Ed Spang.

After the crew completed work in the White Mountains National Recreation Area, they moved to the Steese National Conservation Area, where BLM biologist Winston Hobgood was working with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in a radio collaring project with caribou, moose and wolves. The crew filmed part of this activity, and plan to devote one of their programs to BLM habitat management efforts.

BLM Alaska State Director Ed



The TV crew was able to interview BLM National Director Cy Jamison, who had flown out to the White Mountains to dedicate a new trail segment in the White Mountains National Recreation Area.

Spang commented, "Giving a national television audience a look at recreation and management issues is a positive step. This can lead to better public understanding and appreciation for these special areas."

Following editing and post-production, the programs are expected to be aired in January or February of 1993.

—Dave Vickery



BLM honors brave men and women at Alaska's Aleutian Islands

1992 is a big year for anniversaries in Alaska. Besides being the 50th anniversary of the completion of the Alaska Highway, it also is the 50th anniversary of the Japanese bombing of Dutch Harbor and beginning of the Aleutian campaign of World War II.

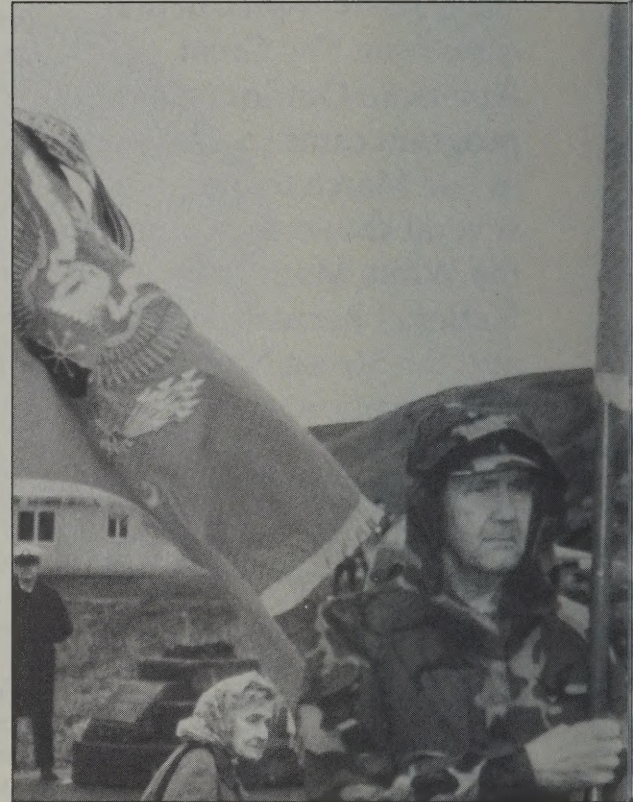
As a part of the many events planned for the state during the year, BLM Alaska State Director Ed Spang participated in special ceremonies in June memorializing the action at Unalaska Island. The island, about 800 air miles southwest of Anchorage, was filled with veterans, news media, Aleut Natives and other local people. Retired four-star Admiral James Russell, one of the

principal naval officers at Dutch Harbor during the attack, was a principal speaker and told tales of the war and weather. More than 200 veterans of the Aleutian war traveled long distances to take part in the events. Among them was the Arkansas 208th Coast Artillery unit, led by Maj. Gen. James A. Ryan, Cmdr., Arkansas National Guard, who made a special trip to Unalaska to participate. This Arkansas national guard unit was sent to the Aleutians at the outbreak of war, and stayed there through the campaign.

State Director Spang presented Unalaska Mayor Frank Kelty copies of the public land orders signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt that withdrew the Aleutian Islands for military use as part of the war effort. BLM worked with the National Archives in Washington, D.C. to research the historical documents and to obtain presentation copies for the commemoration.

In making the presentation Spang said, "Public land documents are one part of the history of World War II. It is our hope that these will help in the understanding of the history of the war in Alaska."

During the ceremony, Spang also presented Alice



Arkansas 208th Coast Artillery veterans made a special trip to Unalaska for the ceremonies. (Right) On Unalaska, BLM State Director Ed Spang peers into a concrete bunker used during World War II for the defense of Dutch Harbor.



More than 200 veterans of the Aleutian war traveled across the country to take part in the special ceremonies.

Petrivilli, President of the Aleut Native Corporation, a series of documents transferring 19 cemetery and historic sites to the corporation. The sites, important to Natives, are granted under Sec. 14(h)(1) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. This is the first transfer of historic sites back to the Aleut people since passage of the act in 1971.

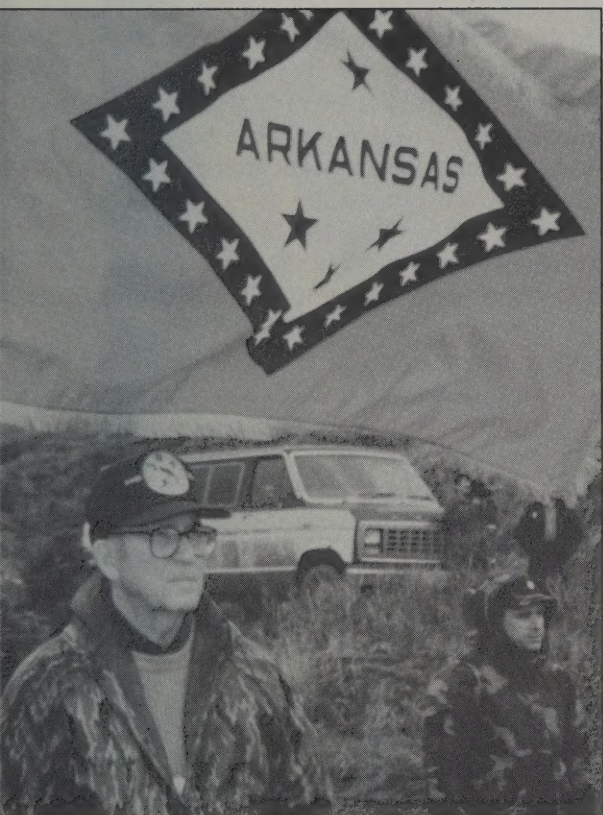
Spang said, "This action fulfills the intent of Congress to provide Native

people ownership and control of sites which have special significance. These sites, under Native control, will be preserved and protected to maintain their special character."

The City of Unalaska historical commission is gathering material to preserve the history of the area, and the National Park Service is working to establish a new unit at Unalaska and other areas with historic sites.

—Dave V

and women who defended n World War II



By the early 1940s, the start of World War II spurred a buildup of U.S. military forces in the Aleutians. Soon Alaska Highway construction started, and a naval presence was established at Kodiak, Dutch Harbor, Cold Bay and elsewhere in Alaska.

On June 3, 1942, Japanese naval air forces attacked the port of Dutch Harbor on Unalaska Island in the opening salvo of the battle of Midway. Their attack was designed to lure the American fleet out of Hawaiian waters, where it could be destroyed, but the U.S. Navy, had broken the Japanese code and won a great victory at Midway on June 3 and 4, 1942.

While the Aleutian attack had initially been planned as a feint, the Japanese, after their disastrous loss, claimed the major focus of the campaign was in the Aleutians. Japanese forces invaded and occupied the islands of Attu and Kiska, sparking an American buildup and response.

A sad result of the war was the removal of the Aleut people from their island homes to relocation centers in southeast Alaska. Conditions in the camps were poor, and many people died. After the war, the Aleuts were returned to their islands, only to find that many of their homes had been destroyed or looted, and their way of life was irredeemably changed.

Today commercial fishing and fish processing are the principal activities at Dutch Harbor. Millions of pounds of fish are processed here, bound for American and Japanese consumers. However, one can still readily see Aleut and Russian influences, as well as the empty concrete bunkers remaining from World War II.

Alaska kids spring into nature studies



Fairbanks kids arrive for Outdoor Education Days.

May 26, and the snow was finally gone. Energy burst like fireworks from 200 sixth-graders as they poured from the bright yellow school buses. Their excited voices mingled with the chirps and trills of robins in the woods. Glad to be out of their confining classrooms, the kids quieted enough to listen intently as Bureau of Land Management staff members explained what they would be doing in the next six hours.

It was Outdoor Education Days in Fairbanks. Each day started out with the Alaska Fire Service smokejumpers describing how they jump from airplanes and fight fires. The kids asked, "What do you eat when you're out on fire?" and "How much do you get paid?"

Then they moved to where the action was. This year the three-day event doubled in size to 600 students from eight schools. BLM set up two loops of six learning stations, one on the grounds of the office building, the other at the Chena River Recreation Site across the street.

Separating into groups of 16, the students spent about 30 minutes at each learning station. Through carefully planned games and hands-on activities, the sixth-graders learned about fisheries, wildlife, recreation, archeology, minerals and plants (plus grazing, forestry and fire management). Some young bodies flitted and jumped like startled deer or migrating salmon; others shuffled along like black bears collecting food.

At close-out each day, the BLM leader asked questions about natural resources and recreation that were answered competitively by the small groups.

"We were very encouraged about how much the kids had learned by the end of each day," Kobuk District geologist Jim Deininger said. "They formed quiz teams that competed to answer questions, and the level of excitement was pretty high.

Outdoor Education Days started in 1991 as Deininger's brain-child. As a former junior high teacher, he recognized the opportunity BLM had to teach kids how to care for their environment. He also knew how to keep the kids interested. Based on two successful outdoor education experiences, Jim would like to expand the event in the future to cover all sixth-graders in the area.

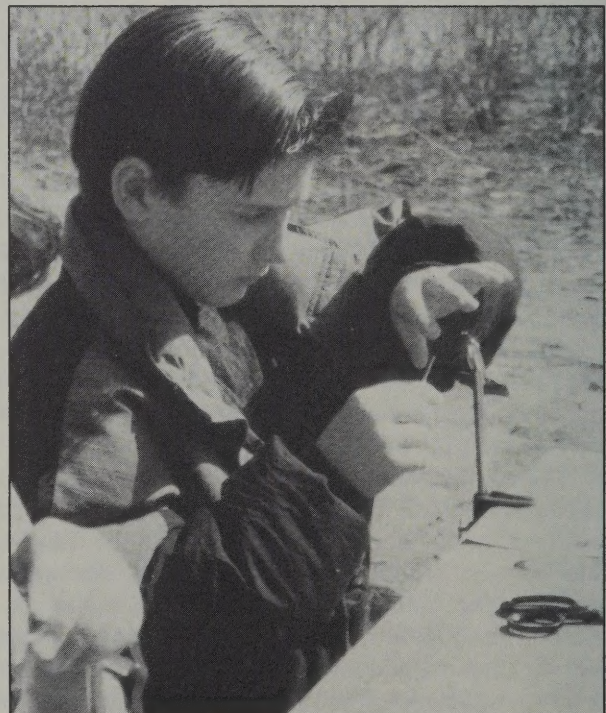
Objectives of the program are to involve sixth-grade students in outdoor learning experiences, to show students the types of careers available in the field of natural resources, to create an awareness and appreciation for the earth's natural resources, and to foster a sense of stewardship of the land and its resources.

An effective educational program takes a lot of planning and preparation, and BLM staff started planning the 1992 program in January. Instructors for the learning stations developed lesson plans and educational handouts for the students to take home.

For Outdoor Education Days 1992, BLM staff were joined by specialists from the Alaska Public Lands Information Center, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the Alaska divisions of Geological and Geophysical Surveys, Economic Development, Forestry, Parks and Recreation, and Mining. Also contributing were other federal employees from Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Army Corps of Engineers.

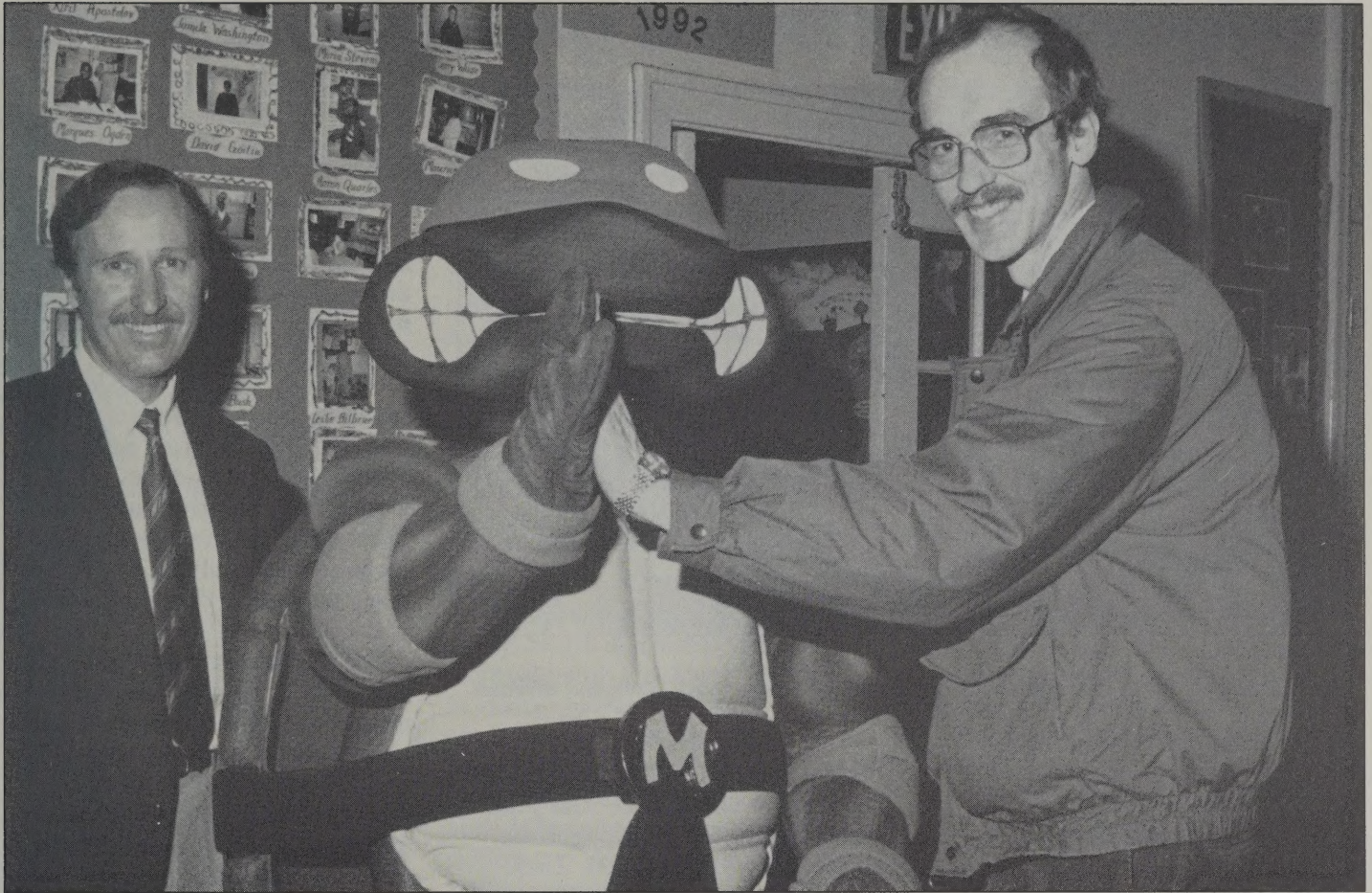
"One thing that made it better this year was the interagency cooperation," said Deininger. "We had personnel from nine state and federal agencies bring new ideas and fresh attitudes. BLM had the experience to bring it all together. We would like to see this continue as a community effort."

—Sharon Durgan Wilson



In Anchorage, student learns how to tie his own flies at the joint BLM/Trout Unlimited fly-tying station during Outdoor Week on the Campbell Tract.

Cowabunga! Turtles leap to rescue!



High three meets high five! Michaelangelo greets Alaska BLM's archaeologist Bob King (right) at Stevens Elementary School in Washington, D.C. The TV star attended the premiere of a new Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles video boosting BLM's Cultural Heritage Education Program. King and BLM-Arizona state archaeologist Gary Stumpf (left) helped kick off the new BLM education effort.

What's green, loves pizza and is BLM's newest bunch of friends? The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles!

These favorites of the younger generation have teamed up with BLM to promote public stewardship of vulnerable historical and archaeological resources across America. And with their help, BLM's new Cultural Heritage Education Program for kids from Kindergarten through high school is off and running at more than five times a "turtles pace."

BLM Alaska state archaeologist Bob King is a member of BLM's national design team for the new program. King recently attended a special premiere of "The Mystery of the Cliffs," a 15-minute video starring the Turtles in an action adventure

story about archaeological resources. Deputy Interior Secretary Frank Bracken and BLM Director Cy Jamison hosted the April premier at Stevens Elementary School in Washington, D. C.

"Director Jamison spoke afterwards about helping preserve our cultural resources. There are more than five million historical and archaeological properties on BLM-managed public lands. Judging by the attentiveness and enthusiasm of the children, our initiative is a big hit," said King, "As the kids left, they got to meet a Turtle and receive trash bags and a Turtle picture. For me, it was the first time I ever did a 'high five' and got a 'high three' in return."

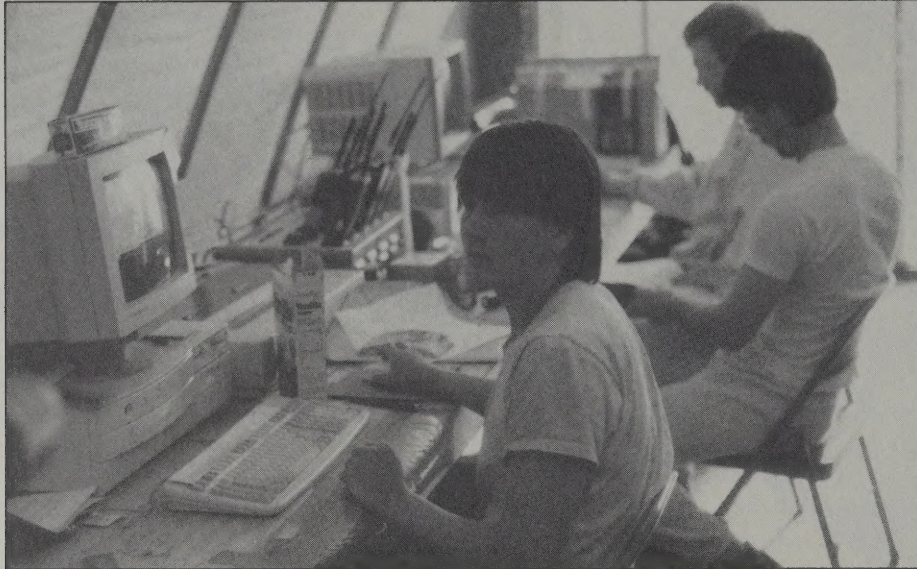
Copies of the video will be distrib-

uted nationwide to more than 2000 school systems as part of BLM's outreach efforts to help teach youth the importance of historical and archaeological sites and the need to protect them as irreplaceable national treasures.

The new Cultural Heritage Education Program also promotes interest in other subjects such as science and math. BLM is hiring a new team of education specialists to assist BLM offices nationwide in developing a wide variety of outreach programs and learning activities. In Alaska, cultural heritage outreach efforts have included presentations by BLM archaeologists at various schools and at Outdoor Week in Anchorage and Fairbanks.

—Bob King/Ed Bovy

BLM's RAPS program budget gets a boost



Justin Rousseau plots meanders on a computer at field camp near Eek last summer.

The Resource Apprenticeship Program for Students (RAPS) is bigger than ever this year due in part to a generous state grant.

The Alaska Department of Community and Regional Affairs administers funds for the Job Training Partnership Act. RAPS received the state's highest rating over 18 other proposals from a variety of public and private organizations in Southcentral Alaska. This netted RAPS a total grant of \$93,000 under this program—the largest grant of this type to any RAPS program nationwide.

"Last year we had an overall budget of \$125,000," said BLM RAPS coordinator Bob Jones. "This year we're looking at something in the neighborhood of \$240,000. These funds helped us raise the number of students from 37 last year to about 50 this year."

In addition to funds granted under the Job Training Act, RAPS also receives funding from a number of other sources, including the Migrant Education program, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, several non-profit Native groups, and Alyeska Pipeline Service Company.

The Resource Apprenticeship Program for Students originated at

BLM's Arctic District in 1987, with the idea of fostering an understanding of resource management among rural residents and of stimulating rural Alaskan students to choose careers in resource management. Students in the program are placed in summer jobs with various resource-managing agencies and corporations, where they see what it's like to work in such fields as archaeology, geology, biology, recreation management, mapping, surveying, etc.

Now that funding is no longer a problem this year, Jones says the real challenge is to find more host agencies for the students. "The extra money has given us room to grow—and we have. But we need to maintain a quality experience for every student, and this takes some real work."

The 50 students participating in this year's program come from such remote villages around the state as Shishmaref in northwestern Alaska and False Pass in the Aleutian Islands. The students will spend approximately two months with resource professionals at BLM and other agencies.

The additional funds this year allowed Jones and his team of VISTA volunteers to design a RAPS handbook. "The students will use it throughout the summer," said VISTA volunteer Jeff Brune. "It's a series of self-paced lessons with assignments to help them increase their reading, writing, math and communication skills."

—Teresa McPherson

Alyeska Pipeline Service Company in Fairbanks has loaned this vehicle to the RAPS program for the summer. Here Neal Cabiness, Alyeska equipment support supervisor, hands the keys of the diesel Suburban to Steve Haines, BLM's RAPS coordinator for northern Alaska. Bob Jones, right, statewide RAPS coordinator, negotiated Alyeska's donation of free use of the vehicle until the end of September.



BLM sets new rules for recreation use of land along Dalton Highway

The Bureau of Land Management has established supplemental rules for use of public lands along the Dalton Highway.

Starting on the north side of the Yukon River (approximately 130 miles north of Fairbanks), the 1.1 million acres covered by the rules are those Utility Corridor lands closest to existing roads, including the Dalton Highway, the Bettles winter road, and the Wiseman Nolan-Hammond roads (see map).

The remoteness of the Dalton

Highway and the Utility Corridor lands attracts more visitors every year. The public, arriving by either tour bus or private vehicle, enjoys the unusual scenery of the area, and many visitors go backpacking, horseback riding, hunting, fishing or collecting minerals. That same remoteness has hindered the development of improvements necessary for travelers.

When the Dalton Highway Recreation Area Management Plan was completed in November 1991, several issues affecting the management of the public lands in that area were identified by BLM.

One of these, the concern for safety, health and sanitation, has increased with the dramatic increase in visitors to these remote public lands with no visitor facilities. To protect the environment along the Dalton Highway, the district has built outhouses and a public contact station.

The increase in visitors also calls for more protection of the natural resources in the area, while at the same time accommodating recreational use. The Arctic District has plans for pullouts, wayside rest areas, picnic areas and campgrounds.

The district ranger will be patrolling the highway more frequently for resource protection duties and for visitor emergencies.

Reducing user conflicts has become vitally important, since more and more people want to use the public lands. The public lands are open to all uses, as long as one use does not preclude or impair another, or damage the land and its resources.

The BLM manages the public lands along the Dalton Highway according to the requirement of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act and other federal regulations.

—Sharon Durgan Wilson

The new rules:

- **Camping** is allowed for up to 14 days at a time in one place during a 28-day period. Then the camp must be moved at least 5 miles away. Moving the campsite will prevent long-term damage (such as tent rings and paths) to vegetation.

- No overnight camping is allowed within two road miles and one river mile upstream or downstream of the South Fork Koyukuk River Bridge. **Vehicles** may be parked at the bridge as long as 14 days, but no longer.

- No camping is allowed within the Toolik Lake Area of Environmental Concern/Research Natural Area (mile 284.3), which has been set aside as an international study area.

- To ensure a safe visit, you may not discharge **firearms** within one mile of any developed campground.

- You may collect **minerals** on a recreational basis using a gold pan, a pick, shovel, metal detector or rocker and sluice box. No other method of mineral extraction may be used. No minerals may be collected in the Toolik Lake Research Natural Area or from valid existing mining claims unless the claimant has given permission.

- An Arctic District permit is necessary before cutting **green timber** for firewood, house logs or commercial purposes.

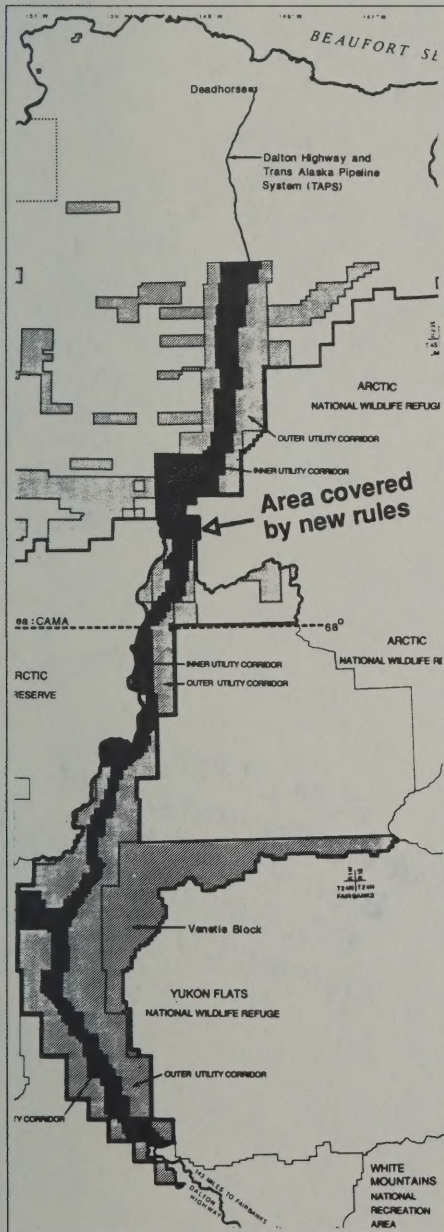
- **Livestock** (defined as any animals except dogs that are used for transportation or packing) must be quartered in BLM-provided corrals, as they are built.

- Livestock owners/handlers must provide certified weed-free feed for the animals.

- Livestock may not be grazed within 200 feet of recreational facilities such as cabins, developed trails, etc., or within 50 feet of streams, lakes or ponds, or within one mile of the Dalton Highway.

- No livestock may be used within the Toolik Lake Research Natural Area.

Any exceptions to these rules must be obtained in writing from the Arctic District Manager. For further information, contact the Arctic District Recreation Staff, 1150 University Ave., Fairbanks, AK 99709-3844. Telephone (907) 474-2312.



frontier flashes

BLM has published several new technical reports:

- *Three Years of Natural Revegetation on the 1977 Bear Creek Burn in Interior Alaska*, BLM-Alaska Open File Report 28.

- *Leasable Mineral Resource Assessment of the Southcentral Planning Area, Alaska*, BLM-Alaska Open File Report 35.

- *Petrographic Analyses of Selected Horizons, Aurora 089 No. 1 OCS-Y-0943 Well, Offshore Northeast Alaska*, BLM-Alaska Open File Report 42.

- *Log Analysis of Aurora 089 No. 1 OCS-Y-0943 Well, Offshore of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge 1002 Area, Northeast Alaska*, BLM-Alaska Technical Report 15.

Copies of these publications are available from BLM Public Affairs Office, 222 West 7th Ave. #13, Anchorage, Alaska 99513; or phone (907) 271-5555. Copies have been placed in selected libraries throughout the state.

BLM Alaska State Director Ed Spang served as master of ceremonies at the Federal Executive Association's Outstanding Federal Employee of the Year banquet in Anchorage in May.



BLM Alaska State Director Edward F. Spang has achieved the rank of **Presidential Meritorious Executive** in the Senior Executive Service. This recognition is granted to just a select few senior officials chosen from all federal agencies. The award honors him for noteworthy achievement of quality and efficiency in the public service. Spang was commended for his leadership qualities and the ability to resolve difficult management decisions. He had previously won the Interior Department's meritorious and distinguished service awards. In 1986 he was honored by Montana State University with their highest achievement award, Outstanding

Alumni Achiever; he earned a BS in range management from Montana State at Bozeman.

During a 40-year federal career, Spang has also held management positions in Nevada, Montana, Oregon, Arizona and Washington, D.C.

Land ownership in the BLM Kobuk District is shown on a large color map BLM has just released. The map includes land status on the Seward Peninsula and around the towns of Kotzebue, Nenana, Livengood, Healy, and along the Yukon River from Kaltag to the Dalton Highway. Kobuk District lies south of the Brooks Range, west of the Dalton Highway, and north of an imaginary line connecting Unalakleet and Healy.

U.S. Senator Ted Stevens and BLM State Director Ed Spang dedicated a new **wayside exhibit** on the Dalton Highway July 11. Located where the highway crosses the Arctic Circle, the wayside now sports a new parking area, information panels, a viewing deck, picnic tables and toilets. More than 14,000 people visited the site last year.



BLM-Alaska frontiers is published six times a year by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management.

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